

REMARKS

The Office Action dated December 6, 2010 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-25 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-25 stand rejected.

Interview Summary

Applicant and the undersigned wish to thank Examiner Baturay for the courtesies she extended in a telephone interview with the undersigned that occurred on April 6, 2011. During the interview, the amendments to the claims were briefly discussed. The Examiner agreed to contact the undersigned prior to issuing the next Office Action.

Claim Objection

Applicant has amended Claim 10 to address the issue raised by the Examiner in the Office Action, thus, rendering the objection to Claim 10 moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to Claim 10 be withdrawn.

Specification Objection

The objection to the Specification for failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter is respectfully traversed. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that the specification fails to provide support or antecedent basis for the recitation of “the first command associated with a function other than a search function” within Claims 6, 16, and 23 in a way that allows the meaning of the term to be ascertained. Claims 6, 16, and 23 have been amended to recite “the first computer-implemented command formatted by the user of the at least one client system to perform a purchasing function at the target web site.” Applicant respectfully submits that the amended recitation is supported and described throughout the originally-filed specification, including within Figures 4 and 5, to allow the meaning of the recitations of Claims 6, 16, and 23 to be ascertained.

Moreover, the Examiner asserts that the specification fails to provide support or antecedent basis for the recitation of “purchasing criteria” within Claims 1, 9, 10, 18, 19, and 25 in a way that allows the meaning of the term to be ascertained. Claims 1, 9, 10, 18, 19, and 25 have been amended to recite “user preference information.” Applicant respectfully submits that the term “user preference information” is supported and described throughout the originally-filed specification, including at paragraph [0072], to allow the meaning of the recitations of Claims 1, 9, 10, 18, 19, and 25 to be ascertained.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

The rejection of Claims 6, 16, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement is respectfully traversed. Claims 6, 16, and 23 have been amended to address the issue raised by the Examiner in the Office Action. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 6, 16, and 23, as amended, comply with the written description requirement, and fulfill the requirements of Section 112, first paragraph. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 112, first paragraph, rejection of Claims 6, 16, and 23 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1, 9, 10, 18, 19, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement is respectfully traversed. Claims 1, 9, 10, 18, 19, and 25 have been amended to address the issue raised by the Examiner in the Office Action. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1, 9, 10, 18, 19, and 25, as amended, comply with the written description requirement, and fulfill the requirements of Section 112, first paragraph. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 112, first paragraph, rejection of Claims 1, 9, 10, 18, 19, and 25 be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

The rejection of Claims 6, 16, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as having insufficient antecedent basis is respectfully traversed. Claims 6, 16, and 23 have been amended

to address the issue raised by the Examiner in the Office Action. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 6, 16, and 23, as amended, distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention, and fulfill the requirements of Section 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection of Claims 6, 16, and 23 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1, 9, 10, 18, 19, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as having insufficient antecedent basis is respectfully traversed. Claims 1, 9, 10, 18, 19, and 25 have been amended to address the issue raised by the Examiner in the Office Action. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1, 9, 10, 18, 19, and 25, as amended, distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention, and fulfill the requirements of Section 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection of Claims 1, 9, 10, 18, 19, and 25 be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-3, 5-14, 16-20, and 22-25

The rejection of Claims 1-3, 5-14, 16-20, and 22-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 7,257,585 to Stevenson et al. (hereinafter referred to as “Stevenson”) and U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0188603 to Baird et al. (hereinafter referred to as “Baird”), in view of U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0015484 to Debaty et al. (hereinafter referred to as “Debaty”) and U.S. Pat. No. 6,098,065 to Skillen et al. (hereinafter referred to as “Skillen”), and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,535,912 to Anupam et al. (hereinafter referred to as “Anupam”) is respectfully traversed.

Initially, Applicant submits that no combination of Stevenson, Baird, Debaty, Skillen, and Anupam describes or suggests the claimed invention. At least one of the differences between Stevenson, Baird, Debaty, Skillen, and Anupam and the claimed invention is that no combination of Stevenson, Baird, Debaty, Skillen, and Anupam describes or suggests storing user preference information in a database including a list of functions defined by a user of at least one client system for inclusion within a function menu, wherein each function is associated

by the user with at least one universal resource locator (URL) and a computer-implemented command for performing the associated function, wherein the computer-implemented command is configured by the user to perform the associated function at at least one remote vendor web server corresponding to the at least one associated URL.

Stevenson describes a system for avoiding invalid hypertext links on web pages. The system augments data from a source data file (30) with data from a reference database (39) to generate an augmented data file (50). The source data file (30) resides on a server on a network (33). A handler (36) retrieves the source data file (30) for use by the system. A locator (42) examines the retrieved source data file (30) for comparison to the reference database (39) according to an analyzing strategy. The locator (42) compares structured data from the source data file (30) and reference data from the reference database (39), and provides the reference data to an analyzer (45). The analyzer (45) creates associations between each compared structured datum and a uniform resource locator (URL) address within each corresponding reference datum found by the locator (42). A generator (48) then embeds each URL address in the source data file (30), resulting in the augmented data file (50).

Baird describes a method for automating a search over the Internet. A user selects (100) data, such as a text string, from within an application. The selected data is used by a search engine to perform (104) an Internet search, without requiring the user to leave the application. When the search is complete, the search results are returned (106) to the user within the application. The user may also choose a particular search engine or Internet site to use for the search.

Debaty describes a context-aware proxy server system (10). The system (10) includes a client context-aware proxy server (20) coupled to a plurality of client systems (11-11n), wherein each client system (11-11n) includes at least one personalized environment (15). Each personalized environment (15) includes a number of web-enabled services (16-16n) that are facilitated by an interconnect network (12), the Internet (14), and/or at least one remote web server (13). The client context-aware proxy server (20) includes a proxy engine (21) that is programmed with sufficient functionality to receive requests from the client systems (11-11n) and process each request received therein, and, if necessary, communicate with the remote web

servers (13) for the requested content. The client context-aware proxy server (20) also includes a transformation module (22) coupled to the proxy engine (21). The transformation module (22) receives web pages to be sent to a requesting client system (11-11n) and determines the identity and location of the requesting client system (11-11n). The client context-aware proxy server (20) further includes a context store (23) coupled to the transformation module (22).

The context store (23) stores context information of each client system (11-11n). The proxy engine (21) receives and processes a request from a client system (11-11n) to retrieve a web page from a remote web server (13) and pass the web page to the client system (11-11n). The proxy engine (21) retrieves the requested web page and sends the retrieved web page to transformation module (22) for adding context information to the web page. The transformation module (22) then uses the identity and location of the client system (11-11n) to access the context store (23) for the corresponding context information. Once the corresponding context information of the requesting client system (11-11n) is retrieved from the context store (23), the transformation module (22) adds URLs or context menus at appropriate locations within the web page such that the web page becomes a “modified” web page. The transformation module (22) transmits the modified web page to the proxy engine (21) that receives the modified web page and then sends the modified web page to the requesting client system (11-11n).

Skillen describes an advertising machine (10) that is connected to a data processing device (12) through a communications link (14). The advertising machine (10) includes a database search engine (16), an associative search engine (18), and a database (20) that includes contextual data (22) and product data (24). Based on a search string received by the advertising machine (10) from the data processing device (12), the database search engine (10) searches through the contextual data (22) in the database (20) and returns the results of the search to the data processing device (12) for display to an end user. The database search engine (16) then passes the search argument and results to the associative search engine (18). The associative search engine (18) uses rule-based software algorithms and/or fuzzy logic to search for a match of a particular product within the product data (24). The results of the search by the associative search engine (18) are then returned to the data processing device (12) for display to the end user.

in the form of an advertisement. Skillen also discloses that the advertising machine (10) is a distinct, self-contained unit within an Internet access provider equipment site (32).

Anupam describes a shortcut to obtain content to a user who is looking to purchase a specific type of used automobile having certain constraints with respect to the auto's age, cost and mileage. More specifically, the user creates a smart bookmark that automatically goes directly to a Web page containing the most current automobiles for sale that meet the user's criteria, without having to manually select link traversals and form submissions as initially performed to access that information. Thus, when the user initially, through his browser, goes through the sequence of steps from firstly inputting the URL of the online site, making link traversals, and filling-in and submitting forms, those user actions are recorded in a file and made available to that user for playback at a later time. As such, Anupam describes using the user's search history to create a smart bookmark to items that are currently available and match the history.

Claim 1 recites a method for retrieving information using a server system coupled to a centralized database and at least one client system, said method comprising "storing user preference information in the database including a list of functions defined by a user of the at least one client system for inclusion within a function menu, wherein each function is associated by the user with at least one universal resource locator (URL) and a computer-implemented command for performing the associated function, wherein the computer-implemented command is configured by the user to perform the associated function at at least one remote vendor web server corresponding to the at least one associated URL . . . displaying the function menu on the client system to prompt the user to select a desired function from the list of user-defined functions included within the function menu to apply the selected function to a selected object, wherein the selected object is an object included within an electronic document displayed on the at least one client system and identified by the user . . . receiving, at the server system, the selected object and the selected function from the at least one client system . . . processing the selected object by applying the selected function to the selected object at the server system to generate a processed object, the processing further including . . . retrieving from the database the at least one URL and the computer-implemented command associated with the selected function

. . . executing the retrieved computer-implemented command using the selected object to generate the processed object . . . transmitting the processed object from the server system to at least one remote vendor web server corresponding to the at least one retrieved URL . . . receiving a processing result from the at least one remote vendor web server at the server system, the processing result generated by the at least one remote vendor web server based on the processed object and including at least a resulting web page . . . determining whether further processing of each processing result is necessary to complete the selected function . . . and transmitting at least one of each processing result and another output to the client system.”

None of Stevenson, Baird, Debaty, Skillen, and Anupam, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests a method for retrieving information, as recited in Claim 1. More specifically, none of Stevenson, Baird, Debaty, Skillen, and Anupam, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests storing user preference information in a database including a list of functions defined by a user of at least one client system for inclusion within a function menu, wherein each function is associated by the user with at least one universal resource locator (URL) and a computer-implemented command for performing the associated function, wherein the computer-implemented command is configured by the user to perform the associated function at at least one remote vendor web server corresponding to the at least one associated URL.

Rather, Stevenson describes comparing the contents of a source data file to the contents of a reference database and generating an augmented data file that includes the source data file and data from the reference database, and Baird describes selecting search terms, initiating a search action, passing the requested search into a search engine, and returning the results of the search to the user. Debaty describes a client context-aware proxy server that modifies web pages by adding URLs or context menus. Skillen describes relating search arguments to product data stored in a product database, and Anupam describes a smart bookmark that automatically goes directly to a Web page containing the most current automobiles for sale that meet a user’s previously entered search criteria.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Stevenson, Baird, and Debaty in view of Skillen and Anupam.

Claims 2, 3, and 5-9 depend from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2, 3, and 5-9 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 2, 3, and 5-9 likewise are patentable over Stevenson, Baird, and Debaty in view of Skillen and Anupam.

Claim 10 recites a network based system for retrieving information, said system comprising "a client system comprising a user interface and a browser . . . a centralized database for storing information . . . and a server system configured to be coupled to said client system and said database, said server system further configured to . . . enable a user to input user preference information for storing in the database, the user preference information including a list of functions defined by the user for inclusion within a function menu, wherein each function is associated by the user with at least one universal resource locator (URL) and a computer-implemented command for performing the associated function, wherein the computer-implemented command is configured by the user to perform the associated function at at least one remote vendor web server corresponding to the at least one associated URL . . . enable the user to select an object from an electronic document displayed on said user interface . . . display the function menu on said user interface to prompt the user to select a desired function from the list of user-defined functions included within the function menu to apply the selected function to a selected object, wherein the selected object is an object included within an electronic document displayed on said client system and identified by the user. . . receive the selected object and the selected function from said client system . . . process the selected object by applying the selected function to the selected object to generate a processed object the process further including . . . retrieve from the database the at least one URL and the computer-implemented command associated with the selected function . . . execute the retrieved computer-implemented command using the selected object to generate the processed object . . . transmit the processed object from said server system to at least one remote vendor web server corresponding to the at least one retrieved URL . . . receive a processing result from the at least one remote vendor web server at said server system, the processing result generated by the at least one remote vendor web server based on the processed object and including at least a resulting web page . . . determine whether further processing of each process result is necessary to complete the selected function . . . and transmit at least one of each process result and another output to said client system."

None of Stevenson, Baird, Debaty, Skillen, and Anupam, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests a networked-based system for retrieving information, as recited in Claim 10. More specifically, none of Stevenson, Baird, Debaty, Skillen, and Anupam, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests a server system that is coupled to a client system and a database, wherein the server system is configured to enable a user to input user preference information for storing in a database, the user preference information including a list of functions defined by the user for inclusion within a function menu, wherein each function is associated by the user with at least one universal resource locator (URL) and a computer-implemented command for performing the associated function, wherein the computer-implemented command is configured by the user to perform the associated function at at least one remote vendor web server corresponding to the at least one associated URL.

Rather, Stevenson describes comparing the contents of a source data file to the contents of a reference database and generating an augmented data file that includes the source data file and data from the reference database, and Baird describes selecting search terms, initiating a search action, passing the requested search into a search engine, and returning the results of the search to the user. Debaty describes a client context-aware proxy server that modifies web pages by adding URLs or context menus. Skillen describes relating search arguments to product data stored in a product database, and Anupam describes a smart bookmark that automatically goes directly to a Web page containing the most current automobiles for sale that meet a user's previously entered search criteria.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 10 is submitted to be patentable over Stevenson, Baird, and Debaty in view of Skillen and Anupam.

Claims 11-14 and 16-18 depend from independent Claim 10. When the recitations of Claims 11-14 and 16-18 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 10, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 11-14 and 16-18 likewise are patentable over Stevenson, Baird, and Debaty in view of Skillen and Anupam.

Claim 19 recites a computer program comprising a non-transitory computer readable medium having embodied thereon computer-executable instructions for retrieving information

using a server system coupled to a client system, a database, and a remote vendor web server, the client system including a user interface, said computer-executable instructions cause the server system to “store user preference information in the database including a list of functions defined by a user of the client system for inclusion within a function menu, wherein each function is associated by the user with at least one universal resource locator (URL) and a computer-implemented command for performing the associated function, wherein the computer-implemented command is configured by the user to perform the associated function at the remote vendor web server corresponding to the at least one associated URL . . . prompt the user to select an object from an electronic document displayed on the user interface . . . display the function menu on the user interface to prompt the user to select a desired function from the list of user-defined functions included within the function menu to apply the selected function to a selected object . . . receive the selected object and the selected function from the client system . . . process the selected object by applying the selected function to the selected object to generate a processed object, the process further includes . . . retrieving from the database the at least one URL and the computer-implemented command associated with the selected function . . . executing the retrieved computer-implemented command using the selected object to generate the processed object . . . transmitting the processed object from the server system to the remote vendor web server corresponding to the at least one retrieved URL . . . receiving a processing result from the remote vendor web server at the server system, the processing result generated by the remote vendor web server based on the processed object and including at least a resulting web page . . . determines whether further processing of each process result is necessary to complete the selected function . . . and transmits at least one of each process result and another output to the client system.”

None of Stevenson, Baird, Debaty, Skillen, and Anupam, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests a computer program for retrieving information using a server system, as recited in Claim 19. More specifically, none of Stevenson, Baird, Debaty, Skillen, and Anupam, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests computer-executable instructions that cause a server system to store user preference information in a database including a list of functions defined by a user of a client system for inclusion within a function menu, wherein each function is associated by the user with at least one universal resource locator

(URL) and a computer-implemented command for performing the associated function, wherein the computer-implemented command is configured by the user to perform the associated function at the remote vendor web server corresponding to the at least one associated URL.

Rather, Stevenson describes comparing the contents of a source data file to the contents of a reference database and generating an augmented data file that includes the source data file and data from the reference database, and Baird describes selecting search terms, initiating a search action, passing the requested search into a search engine, and returning the results of the search to the user. Debaty describes a client context-aware proxy server that modifies web pages by adding URLs or context menus. Skillen describes relating search arguments to product data stored in a product database, and Anupam describes a smart bookmark that automatically goes directly to a Web page containing the most current automobiles for sale that meet a user's previously entered search criteria.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 19 is submitted to be patentable over Stevenson, Baird, and Debaty in view of Skillen and Anupam.

Claims 20 and 22-25 depend from independent Claim 19. When the recitations of Claims 20 and 22-25 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 19, Applicant submits that dependent Claims 20 and 22-25 likewise are patentable over Stevenson, Baird, and Debaty in view of Skillen and Anupam.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 103 rejection of Claims 1-3, 5-14, 16-20, and 22-25 be withdrawn.

Claims 4, 15, and 21

The rejection of Claims 4, 15, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stevenson, Baird, and Debaty, in view of Skillen and Anupam, and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,735,347 to Bates et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Bates") is respectfully traversed.

Stevenson, Baird, Debaty, Skillen, and Anupam are described above.

Bates describes a method and system (200) for copying images from a source document to a destination document in a computer user interface (300). A user is given the option to cut or copy information from an image within the source document and to extract the textual information from the cut or copied image, enabling the extracted text to be pasted into the destination document as text. The textual information is extracted from the cut or copied image using optical character recognition (OCR) techniques. When instructed by the user, the user interface (300) copies the image, uses OCR to locate textual information within the image, and then pastes the located textual information into the destination document.

Bates does not cure the deficiencies of Stevenson, Baird, Debaty, Skillen, and Anupam. Accordingly, even assuming *arguendo*, but not admitting, a motivation to combine Stevenson, Baird, Debaty, Skillen, Anupam, and Bates, the resultant combination would not produce the subject matter recited in amended independent Claim 1, from which Claim 4 depends. Thus, when the recitations of Claim 4 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicant submits that dependent Claim 4 likewise is patentable over Stevenson, Baird, Debaty, Skillen, and Anupam, in view of Bates.

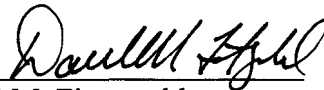
Further, no combination of Stevenson, Baird, Debaty, Skillen, Anupam, and Bates would produce the subject matter recited in amended independent Claim 10, from which Claim 15 depends. Thus, when the recitations of Claim 15 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 10, Applicant submits that dependent Claim 15 likewise is patentable over Stevenson, Baird, Debaty, Skillen, and Anupam, in view of Bates.

Moreover, no combination of Stevenson, Baird, Debaty, Skillen, Anupam, and Bates would produce the subject matter recited in amended independent Claim 19, from which Claim 21 depends. Thus, when the recitations of Claim 21 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 19, Applicant submits that dependent Claim 21 likewise is patentable over Stevenson, Baird, Debaty, Skillen, and Anupam, in view of Bates.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Daniel M. Fitzgerald", written over a horizontal line.

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